



## COLORADO

### Pollution Prevention Advisory Board

Department of Public Health & Environment

## Meeting Notes April 26, 2016

**Attending:** Lisa Bardwell, Andrew Flynn, Karen Hancock, Bill Hayes, Bradley Kieding, Mary Jo Lockbaum, Patricia Mason, Katie Navin, Nick Pizzuti, Quint Redmond, Thomas Riggle, Jarrett Smith, David Stewart, Lindsay Weber, Rebecca White, Rachel Wilson-Roussel

**Not Attending:** Kim Hargraves-Tyrrell, Jarrett Smith

**CDPHE Staff:** Eric Heyboer

### Approval of March Meeting Minutes

*A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the board's March meeting. Motion passed.*

### April Board Updates

Each board member was invited to share pertinent news about their work and any projects they were undertaking. Highlights included:

Katie: There is new legislation, "Every Student Succeeds Act" and environmental education is included. The state is launching a big public feedback tour.

Nick: Notice has gone out about streetlight re-lamping project (70,000-135,000 lamps) among municipalities in Xcel territory. Nick will be in charge of appropriately recycling and disposing of components. More information to come...

Quint: The concept plan for the China project passed. I'm interested in exploring the possibility of the board's support for a sustainable agriculture project this year if that's an option (admin's note: it is).

Lindsay: Snowpack is right on track this year. Denver Water is doing its Water Festival education event on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Karen: May 20<sup>th</sup> Driving Change Event with Clean Cities, May 21<sup>st</sup> is city clean-up day with mattress and E-waste recycling events the weekend prior. Working on a clean-up for a methane violation for 30-year old landfill.

Lisa: DU is teaching a sustainability course this summer through the Pioneer Leadership Program. Lisa shared the PPAB's emails as potential speakers, input, fieldtrip opportunities etc. Let her know if you want your name red flagged not to be contacted.

MaryJo: Working on counter terrorism and emergency planning. It would be great to tie in food security to address these risks.

Brad: No updates.

Rebecca: One bill that would have prohibited CDOT charging for an HOV transponder. Reached a good compromise: If folks use it for HOV only, they can have it for free. If they use it for tolls, a \$15 charge will be applied. Sierra Club is suing for the I-70 E project. The lawsuit will probably be in the courts for about a year but the project will keep moving forward.

Andrew: Doing a lot of wind energy related work. Andrew is attending the wind energy conference in New Orleans next month.

Rachel: Capital rolled out their recycling and composting program and Eric, Lauren and Rachel volunteered to staff the stations the first day. Hundreds of school children visit every day

The CDPHE Green Team has been having the biggest and most successful Earth Month ever. Our E-Waste Collection Event collected almost 9,000 pounds of materials from employees.

Thomas: We're currently working on recycling program, setting a baseline and working with current vendor to get all ducks in a row to increase efforts, including middle school pilot projects. The Sierra Club is sponsoring a program called "Ready for 100" to get the City of Denver to go 100% by 2030.

Patti: The USGBC incoming CEO was in town for last week's conference.

Bill: Launched commercial solar benefits program in April, partnering with Namaste Solar. Between Friday and Monday, they've received 42 inquiries (temporarily shutdown). Hoping for 10 solar projects on commercial buildings (0.5 - 1 MW). Boulder Nissan dealership sold 173 Nissan Leafs in 2015.

## Updates from WateReuse Event, CAEE Conference, USGBC Rocky Mountain Green

### WateReuse Event

Patti: The event was good, though didn't have great attendance and the presentations were okay. It seemed more like a happy hour plus educational input which was confusing.

MaryJo: The posters were great! I'd like to see a 20-minute presentation on what CO WateReuse does.

Thomas: Lots of different groups there, which was great.

### CAEE Conference

Katie: The conference was March 17, 18, 19<sup>th</sup> and there were 230 attendees (despite snow) and 50 sessions. CAEE was able to give about 25 scholarships, including five youth scholarships for high school students. Keynote was Diane Wood, from the National Environmental Education Foundation, and she talked about a recent report about environmental literacy in the U.S. and the takeaways were: more people are engaged in environmental issues, knowledge is only slightly higher and in general, people don't feel like what they're doing is making a difference. Videos of sessions will be released monthly. Thank you again to the board for the support!

### USGBC Rocky Mountain Green

Lindsay: It was great that we sponsored the water track. The water sessions were very well-attended.

Patti: I can share the feedback we got from those reuse sessions with the board.

Andrew: Great venue.

## CAFR Conference

The Colorado Association for Recycling (CAFR) Conference is in Grand Junction from June 12-14<sup>th</sup> - we have 2 free registrations.

## Recycling Resources and Economic Opportunity (RREO) Grants

Rebecca, Lindsay, Brad, MaryJo, Karen, Andrew, Bill, and Rachel helped review the RREO grant applications. Thank you!

[see recommendations packet]

Questions and discussion:

MaryJo: I'm so pleased to see Blue Star Recycling's commitment to health and safety in their practices. It's so important.

Dave: Would it be possible to get a carbon footprint of the DIA food rescue operation? Maybe we could put it on the website at some point.

Bill: I urged Boulder Food Rescue to consider applying for an RREO grant in the future. Hopefully we'll see more applications that address food waste.

Lauren: Is there any limit to how many times an organization can get an award?

Eric: No but after two awards, we scrutinize their applications more carefully to ensure their business model is sustainable.

Dave: Do you ask them if they're going to be in business next year?

Eric: We ask about economic impacts of the project and do a financial risk assessment to get at this, but we don't ask them point-blank.

Lisa: If they go belly-up, who owns the equipment?

Eric: CDPHE would own it if it's within the contract period (about three years). This has happened in the past and it's not ideal.

Eric: The Assistance Committee felt that MasterWash project would be an innovative pollution prevention case study.

Eric: MikaTek is using waste tires to create jersey barriers. It was a very well-thought out There was some discussion about whether or not MikaTek project was an eligible application. They couldn't get funding for equipment from waste tire program, could have applied for a rebate for some of it but the rebate program will be ending in 18 months and MikaTek won't have things up and running in time. There are 60 million being held currently in the state and 6 million produced in Colorado annually. This project will use up 3 million waste tires every year. This project will also create 25 new jobs.

Dave: Can we talk to someone about getting some of the rebate funding from the waste tire program since we're funding projects like this? It's an accounting question.

Rachel: It would have to be approved by the legislature.

Thomas: Could there be an issue with pieces of rubber or chemicals going down the storm drain?

Eric: We looked into what testing they've done to make sure these are durable and they provided some fliers that speak to those concerns. I will share this information with the board.

Karen: They have to come back and talk to the board when they're done.

Thomas: Do we have numbers on how the Southwest CO Council of Governments has improved since their baseline?

Eric: I can ask them.

Dave: Does this tie in to the statewide integrated waste management plan?

Eric: Yes.

Thomas: How many jobs will the Spring Back Colorado organics project create?

Eric: 10 jobs and it will provide redemptive employment for individuals who have been incarcerated in the past, or have had substance abuse problems.

MaryJo: Do they have any agreements in place for purchasing the material that's produced?

Eric: I will check.

Brad: Where will it be located? I know there have been odor issues in some cases.

They're citing it right next to the landfill, so that should help, and it's off the beaten path.

Thomas: Do they charge for collection?

Eric: Yes.

Dave: Is this a study we should look at? We're going to invest \$300,000 for the Spring Back project and we've invested in the past also but it doesn't seem like anyone has a market plan on this. This could be a \$10,000-\$20,000 study saying here are the places you could sell this stuff.

How much is there in total RREO funding? And what does this represent?

Eric: Yes, something we can explore. There is \$3.35 million set aside for grants this fiscal year and this will account for \$2,493,395 and 80 jobs created.

Andrew: In the future, it would be interesting to have tons diverted by projects also, since we ask for this information from the applicants.

**Motion made to approve the 12 grant awards recommended by the Assistance Committee and seconded. Motion carried.**

### **Fiscal Year 17 Planning**

\$250K. And I would change the last sentence to, "We would begin work on potentially developing a RFA for mini-grants." The organics markets analysis will likely be part of the larger study that we will kick-off this year, but actually complete in FY18. That study will likely cost about \$500K, but this is a

separate earmark from the \$500K set aside for mini-grants.

Don't want to rush, so could set aside \$25,000-\$30,000 and spend FY 17 working with a consultant to determine what to focus on and how to proceed, convening with stakeholders and building buy-in. They would help with scope of work, RFA recommendations etc. In FY 18 the statewide integrated waste plan will be done and we'll know what we need to know to complete the study.

We'd like to spend the remaining funds on mini grants for a total of \$270,000 in funds, capped at \$25,000 maximum grant request. How can we simplify this so we don't turn people away, doesn't have to be hub-and-spoke etc?

Dave: Who makes up the Assistance Committee?

Eric: 13 members, rural and urban municipalities and county, six seats for for-profits and non-profits, a seat for office of economic development and international trade, Colorado Energy Office or CDPHE.

Dave: You need someone outside of the realm of the assistance committee to provide some oversight as to what makes sense from the consultant. The PPAB should be intimately involved to help make sure the study doesn't collect dust. Maybe we reach out to the ELP Program to get some experts.

Eric: I'd really like to lean heavily on economic development and international trade for this type of thing too.

### **CAFR Partnership**

Eric: CAFR has sent us a letter proposing some partnership in supporting the studies. New CAFR Executive Director: Carol Russell, 20+ years of experience in the nonprofit world, former mayor of Buena Vista. We could ask her to meet with us and present to the board next month.

## **Planning for Upcoming Ag Water Reuse Meeting**

Rachel: There a Climate Change and Ag meeting on May 5th with similar speakers and topics. Does it make sense to do this instead of organizing a separate meeting? How can we bring the conversation of watereuse to this session?

Quint: This seems to only address climate change - much bigger issue. I don't know that it will address reuse. I think it would still be good to have both.

Dave: A subcommittee is a good idea and we can move it out past June. I will attend the May 5<sup>th</sup> event and have a conversation with key players about our fall meeting.

Lisa: Could we message it as a next step for this May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and hold something in the fall?

Karen: We could fund a September sessions, not planned by CDPHE staff.

Patti: We could call it, "Reuse it or Lose It!"

## **Officer Elections and By Law Updates**

Lauren: We will be losing six board members in July. I emailed you the announcement for applicants so please share with your networks. We are looking for two local government reps, a community group

rep, an environmental group rep, and two private sector reps.

The PPAB bylaws are probably due for an update. Lauren will email them to everyone for review and suggested edits. We'll revisit them at the May meeting to discuss possible changes.

#### Funding Sub-committee Discussion

Lauren: In order to be more strategic in the board's allocation of grant funds, I'd like to organize a funding sub-committee. This group will help create a streamlined Request for Applications, help find ways to encourage applications that support the board's objectives and recommend projects to the board for funding. Brad and Nick volunteered.

#### Future Meeting Agendas

**Reminder: Next PPAB meeting is May 24th, 2016, 10 AM- 1PM.**

Carol Russell, the new ED from CAFR to come talk to the board

WaterReuse staff

Bylaws update discussion

Discuss plans for a happy hour with PPAB alumni and newbies (possibly in August)

Dave would like to present on a white paper on water reuse (ag and one water concepts) 45 minutes.

Field trip planning

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM